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WORK OF KRASNCHAYEV,  
TB SPECIALIST, REVIEWED

Professor Z. Rol'ye

Sixty years ago Timofy Petrovich Krasnobayev was assigned to the Vladimir Children's Hospital (formerly Hospital imeni Rusanov) in Moscow. There he studied various aspects of tuberculosis of the bones and joints of children. A year and a half later he was assigned to the Olga Hospital where he continued his work. On the collected data, he based a new method for treating children. However, it was not until after the revolution that he was able to put his plan into operation and establish a network of sanatoriums. Most of his work was done at Sokol'nikiakh below Moscow, and it was there that he developed an effective treatment which could be administered anywhere regardless of climatic conditions.

In 1922 Krasnobayev read a report at the First All-Union Conference on Tuberculosis in which he stated that sanatoriums are but a single link in the network of antituberculosis service. The Ministry of Public Health has adopted this idea in planning the organization of its antituberculosis network.

Krasnobayev stressed the psychological well being of the patient. Beyond that, his treatment involves rest, inactivation of the diseased area, sunbaths, a balanced diet, and a planned program of occupational therapy. He claims that surgical operations should be performed only where the case is very serious, but then it should be of an orthopedic nature to inhibit the pathogenic processes.

Krasnobayer's cure requires from 3 to 4 years. His campaign was greatly aided in 1937 when the government allotted a special budget for the care of all children afflicted with tuberculosis of the bones and joints. According to the Ministry of Public Health, the State would support any child patient until the pathogenic process has been arrested. Today this is applied to cases where the pathological as well as the anatomical process is absent.

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Krasnobayev emphasized the importance of early diagnosis as an effective means of determining the type of treatment required. He established the pathologic relationship between this type of disease and a primary tubercular infection. Thus the control of tuberculosis of the bones and joints is closely related to the control of general tuberculosis.

On the basis of studies conducted on the clinical aspects and course of the disease, he also determined various accompanying physical characteristics. Thus he established that one of the earliest symptoms of this disease, tension in the abdominal muscles aligned with the bacterial nidus, can be determined by X-ray. He also determined that another early symptom, determinable by X-rays, is the appearance of coxitis. He added a new phase to Aleksandrov's symptom (thickening of the integument) in the determination of specific changes in the joints.

The results of Krasnobayev's work were finally published in "Tuberculosis in the Bones and Joints of Children," which won for him the Laureate of the Stalin Prize.

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